



Tile Cross Academy

Minutes of the Advisory Academy Body Meeting held at the School At 4.00pm on Thursday 18th January 2018

Present: Mrs Jennifer Pemberton
Mr Javed Iqbal
Mr Nigel Bratt – Arconic (Vice Chair)
Mr Martin Holcombe – Birmingham Settlement (Chair)
Mrs Bev Mabey – WMAT CEO

Apologies: Cllr John Cotton

In Attendance: Mr Chris Etheridge - Head of Academy
Mrs Clare Holmes - Clerk

Approval of the Minutes of the meeting of the 16th November 2017

RESOLVED: The minutes of the AAB meeting, held on 16th November 2017 be approved as a correct record of the meeting.

Matters Arising

1. In the minutes of 16th November it was stated that Mr Etheridge would send out the milestone SIP to all Governors. Following the last Governors meeting Mr Etheridge has met with Mr Holcombe twice to discuss the reporting of information to the AAB. It has been agreed that Governors will be provided with the summary sheet from the milestone SIP and that progress of items will be discussed.
2. Mr Etheridge and Mrs Mabey met with Cllr Ward recently and the shared end playing fields were discussed. It has been decided that it is not financially viable for TCA to take over the playing fields at this time. This decision will not affect TCA's use of the fields for sporting activities. There is a meeting on Tuesday 23rd January with BCC and Old Saltleas Rugby Club to discuss the

possibility of the Rugby Club taking over the fields for a set number of years – updates to follow.

3. Mr Etheridge has met with Tile Cross Residents Forum before Christmas and has shared the new development plans and the schools position regarding results. As a result a new prospectus, A5 leaflet and full prospectus are in process. TCA will be having a community day/topic day/armed forces day on 4th July.
4. Mr Etheridge reported that he has been in communication with David Mabey regarding TCA's travel plan.

Pecuniary Interests

There were no additions to pecuniary interests

Link Governor Positions

Mr Etheridge explained the need for and the role of link governors and all present were asked if they felt they wished to apply for any of the positions available.

Mr Holcombe expressed an interest in becoming the link governor for Data.
Mr Bratt expressed an interest in becoming the link governor for Safeguarding.
Mr Iqbal expressed an interest in becoming the link governor for Community.

RESOLVED: Mr Holcombe become the link governor for data, Mr Bratt become the link governor for safeguarding and Mr Iqbal become the link governor for Community Development.

There is still a vacancy for a link governor for SEN.

Action: Mrs Akhtar will be approached to see if this position is of interest to her.

Pupil Numbers

Mr Etheridge reported the following position re pupil number in year groups:-

Year	Current numbers	Approved	Waiting list	spaces
7	93	1	0	26
8	112	6	3	2
9	109	3	6	8
10	139	3	4	0
11	132	0	0	8

Mr Etheridge stated that there had been a high number of direct admissions from Hodge Hill School. Mr Etheridge will monitor this and contact Mrs Mabey if any assistance is required with this.

Mr Etheridge explained the Fair Access Protocol to Governors. All WMAT schools have signed up to the Fair Access Protocol and have asked BCC to divulge details of where Fair Access Pupils are placed.

Mrs Pemberton asked what will happen with the year 10's on the waiting list.

Mrs Mabey stated that each pupil should be looked at on an individual basis and taken into the year group if appropriate. Mrs Mabey suggested that this should be done even if the school goes over its PAN in year 8 and 10 as this will allow for any leavers. Mrs Mabey stated that the target date for TCA to be full in each year group is 2019; following this no further growth funding will be made available by BCC. Current data already suggests that pupil mobility is slowing. Mrs Mabey stated the importance of engaging with the community and asked that all leaflets produced also go into local doctor's surgeries and libraries etc.

Mr Etheridge stated that in his recent meeting with Cllr Ward it had come to light that historically there has been a divide in the local area separated by the river. Pupils north of the river have limited choice when it comes to secondary schools; pupils south of the river have a number of school choices.

Action: Mr Etheridge to contact National Express and Igo to look in to the possibility of a school bus from Shard End.

A confidential discussion took place – minuted separately.

Mr Gettings – School Business Manager resigned from his post with effect from 9th January 2018.

There is now a vacancy for a staff governor.

Action: Mr Etheridge will announce the vacancy in staff briefing on Monday 22nd January and the appointment process will begin before the next Governors meeting in March.

Jayne Barnett has stepped up to cover the Business Manager position, Clare Holmes has stepped in to cover HR and Sue Richardson has been employed on a temporary basis as a Finance Manager. The academy will continue to be supported by Dave Worledge and Michelle Price from WMAT. Jayne Barnett has taken over responsibility for site issues; Anna Haslam has taken over responsibility for ICT & Lend Lease. Delroy Bramwell from WMAT will assist with the new build.

Mrs Pemberton asked for an explanation as to why, on the, SIP Leadership and Management is rated green but on the SEF it is amber.

Mr Etheridge replied that the SIP is rated against the school's own priorities for improvement whereas the SEF is rated against Ofsted criteria. Mrs Mabey advised that until outcomes are "green" leadership and management cannot be green. The SIP can show that the school has the capacity to become good (green) but cannot be classed as green until outcomes improve.

Mr Bratt asked if the school is happy with the progress it is making. This is one of the things he would like reporting. When looking at the SEF or the SIP he can see what rag rating has been attached to which criteria but would like to know if this is what the school expected at this stage and if the school is happy with it.

Mr Kennedy and Mrs Haslam joined the meeting at 5pm.

Mr Kennedy advised the board that the Pastoral team have relaunched and reinforced standards and consistency. There are two form tutors in each form in years 7, 8 and 9 which allows for quality delivery of PHSE and QA of standards.

Attendance has slipped last term to 91.6%. Attendance was adversely affected by the water closure and snow days along with extended holidays at Christmas. There will be a peer review of attendance taking place shortly to ensure that all WMAT schools are recording and reporting attendance in the same way.

Mr Holcombe asked what the national average attendance figure is?

Mr Kennedy replied that the national average attendance figure is 94.8%

Mr Kennedy explained the situation with regards to BCC and fines for poor or non-attendance. The current trigger for a fine is 20 absences (10 days). Pupils can have 9 days off and there is no sanction. Fines are £60 per child. It is often financially beneficial for parents to book holidays in term time at a cheaper rate and pay the £60 fine.

Mr Bratt asked how many languages are spoken at school?

Mr Kennedy replied that there are 40+ languages spoken at school.

Mr Kennedy reported that although attendance has slipped, the school is on track to reach its 20% reduction in exclusions. Mr Bratt reported that 30 TCA students had been attending their work experience placement at Arconic this week and that it had been reported that their behaviour had been exemplary.

Mrs Haslam reported that the quality of teaching had gone up with the number of inadequate or requires improvement lessons going down.

The new HOMEWORK stamp has been a success and enables the school to monitor this area which has not been possible before.

Outcomes reported by Mr Etheridge

Higher prior attainers, as a group, are a risk for TCA. The academy has set up a HPA form group for Year 11 which will start on 22nd January. It will be run by the Heads of English and Maths.

Mr Holcombe asked when the next Year 11 mocks will take place?

Mr Etheridge replied that the next mocks are due to take place week beginning 5th March 2018

Policies

Homework Policy.

Resolved that this policy be ratified as of today's date.

AOB

Mr Bratt asked if a finance report could be on future agendas?

Mr Etheridge replied that this was always on the agenda when the school was governed by the IEB.

Action: Mr Etheridge will liaise with John Cale (Finance Direct at WMAT) regarding future finance reporting.

The meeting concluded at 5.55pm.

Next meeting March 8th 2018 @ 4pm